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CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ~~OL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC VP School in Priemerwald

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE PREPARED 16 May 1951

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REFERENCES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. In September 1950, the VP school in Priemerwald graduated about 1,000 police, 200 of whom were promoted to the rank of VP Meister and the others to ranks of Hauptwachtmeister and Oberwachtmeister. All graduates were earmarked for eventual promotion to officers. Between 23 November and 10 December 1950, the graduates were reassigned to various VP Bereitschaften in the Soviet Zone of Germany, with only a cadre of 400 police remaining at the VP school. One hundred of these 400 police were however, subsequently also reassigned to other units. In December 1950, the VP school received 200 to 300 of the best-qualified graduates from NCO courses at the VP Bereitschaften and, in late December, 600 to 700 police recruits.
 2. The VP school was organized into 10 companies of trainees and a cadre of about 70 officers and 230 police. The trainees received thorough tank training, including the operation of voice-radio sets installed in T-34 tanks.
 3. In January 1951, six T-34 training tanks were available when the first T-44 tank arrived at the VP school. *
 4. School commandant was VP Kommandeur Krumm, (fnu), who was trained in Moscow for one year. He succeeded VP Inspektour Kollitsch, (fnu), who was transferred to the newly activated VP Bereitschaft in Halle in December 1950. VP Rat Viluf, (fnu), was director of training. VP Rat Carolius, (fnu), the former PK officer of the school, and VP Kommandeur Beckmann, (fnu), were transferred to Berlin and Purg respectively.
 5. The VP school in Priemerwald received a shipment of Soviet officers' uniforms in early March.
- * Comment. This is the first report to state that a T-44 tank was issued to the Volkspolizei. Since only obsolescent T-34 tanks mounting 76 and 85-mm guns have been issued to the satellite armies, and since only some of the T-34 tanks with Soviet medium tank regiments in Germany have been replaced by T-44 tanks, it is believed that mistook a T-34/85 tank for a T-44 tank, having seen only T-34/76 tanks with the Volkspolizei.

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